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ER 10-723

30 January 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Members of the IAC Ad Hoc Committee on Communications

SUBJECT : Minutes of the 27 January 1958 Meeting

FROM : W. A. Tidwell, Chairman (Communications Committee)

1. Dr. Omar Pancoast, on behalf of Gen. Truscott, outlined the background for the convening of the Committee and circulated to the members the basic USCIB/IAC paper relating thereto. He also circulated copies of a memorandum from Gen. Truscott to the members of the Committee which suggested certain specific tasks. The meeting was then turned over to Mr. Tidwell as Chairman on behalf of Gen. Truscott.

2. The Chairman pointed out some of the difficulties which the Committee faces in attempting to define certain types of critical intelligence. Several thousand people in the Intelligence Community in Washington are constantly screening intelligence for the specific purpose of identifying which items of incoming information are of critical importance. It will be especially hard to define critical intelligence so as to make it possible for the collector in the field to recognize critical information since the collector does not have the benefit of all the information and analysis available in Washington.

3. After discussion, it was agreed that the Committee should consider critical intelligence under three headings:

a. Early Warning which relates to direct military attack by Bloc forces, particularly the continental U.S.

b. Advanced Warning which relates to indications of a forthcoming attack before the attack is launched; and

c. Other critical situations not involving attack on the US.

4. It was agreed that working parties would prepare preliminary drafts covering three categories of critical intelligence listed in paragraph 3 above, including a statement of; what kinds of information should be obtained, from what type of source the information may be expected, and with what speed the information should be delivered. Col. Crist of the Air Force and Mr. Hitchcock of the NIC agreed to prepare jointly a draft covering early warning and advanced warning, and Mr. Hendrickson of CIA agreed to prepare a draft covering the third category with the assistance of other members of the group.

5. The next meeting will be held at 2:00 P.M., Friday, 7 February 1958 in the Director's Conference Room, as the room is not available for 10:00 A.M., as originally agreed.

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